

LECTOTYPIFICATIONS OF THE TYPES OF *ERIOGONUM* A. MICHX. AND  
*CHORIZANTHE* R. BR. EX BENTH. (POLYGONACEAE: ERIOGONOIDEAE)

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ABSTRACT

Lectotypes are designated for *Eriogonum tomentosum* A. Michx. and *Chorizanthe virgata* Benth., the type species of each genus. An unnumbered Michaux specimen from South Carolina or Georgia in the Jussieu herbarium (P-JU) is designated as the lectotype of *E. tomentosum*. A Cuming specimen from Chile, *Cuming 205*, in the Bentham herbarium (K) is designated as the lectotype of *C. virgata*.

KEY WORDS: *Eriogonum*, *Chorizanthe*, Polygonaceae, nomenclature

In reviewing the genera of Polygonaceae subf. Eriogonoideae for the listing of generic names in current use (Greuter *et al.*, 1991a, b), I realized that lectotypes for the type species of *Eriogonum* A. Michx. (1803: 246) and *Chorizanthe* R. Br. ex Benth. (1836: 405, 416) had never been designated. As *Eriogonum* was monospecific when proposed, the type of the genus is *E. tomentosum*. Goodman (1934: 19) designated *C. virgata* as the lectotype of *Chorizanthe*, one of several species proposed by Bentham in 1836.

Designation of a logical lectotype for *Eriogonum tomentosum* is difficult because Michaux indicated that he knew the species from "Carolinae et Georgiae", meaning that there might be material from more than one collection site included among his herbarium material of the species. The Michaux herbarium is maintained as a separate herbarium at the Muséum National d'Histoire Naturelle in Paris. In Michaux's herbarium there is a perfectly adequate specimen of *E. tomentosum* which lacks location data and date of collection.

In the Jussieu herbarium at the Muséum is another Michaux specimen. This one was the basis of the Redouté illustration Michaux published when he proposed the genus. A note on the sheet indicates that Michaux loaned it to

Jussieu who promised its return. The fact that he failed to do so is recorded in another note by Michaux. It appears that Jussieu intended to describe the new genus, and may even have suggested the name *Eriogonum* for it. Like the specimen in the Michaux herbarium, the one in Jussieu's lacks distribution details.

I believe the two specimens (P-MICH and P-JU) are duplicates of the same collection, but I cannot prove this, especially so because of the two localities cited by Michaux. In Berlin (B), there is a fragment in the Koenpruss herbarium labeled "America Septentr. (Michaux) A. Richard Acq. 183-" which may or may not be a fragment of one of the Michaux sheets at Paris. Also, there is another unattributed specimen of *Eriogonum tomentosum* in the Jussieu herbarium, the origin of which is unknown. I am aware that Mark Catesby collected the species in the 1720's (BM-Sloane) as did Thomas Walter or John Fraser in the 1780's (BM), but if there are other pre-Michaux collections, I am unaware of them. None is nomenclaturally significant as Michaux knew the species only from his own material.

Because the Michaux specimen in the Jussieu herbarium can be directly associated with the illustration in the original publication, I hereby lectotypify *Eriogonum tomentosum* on Michaux s.n., without location or date (P-JU).

Bentham (1836) cited *Cuming 205* and *Bridges 519* when he proposed *Chorizanthe virgata*, a perennial species of central and northern Chile. Bentham also illustrated the plant (Tab. XIX, f. 1). All of these elements may be regarded as original material. I hereby designate the Bentham sheet (K) of *Cuming 205* from Querto Portrero, Chile, as the lectotype of the species.

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